

of transfusion throughout Tanzania. Priorities for the first fiscal year were developed for renovation and equipment for four zonal centers. Also in 2002 CDC supported the visits of administrative and technical staff to blood transfusion services in neighboring countries to study blood safety policy development, structural designs of transfusion centers and transfusion service administration. CDC also contributed to the development of national guidelines for clinical use of blood and blood products in Tanzania that are now under review by blood safety experts.

CDC has now finalized a \$2.5 million renovation and equipment contract for four zonal blood transfusion centers that will be the technical and administrative hub of Tanzania's NBTS. It is anticipated that construction of these key centers will be completed by August 2004. These critical accomplishments will enable Tanzania to adequately address one of the most achievable and cost-effective methods to prevent HIV transmission in the world.

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The United States is acting to help all of Africa turn the tide against HIV/AIDS and although that pandemic is "the deadliest enemy Africa has ever faced," Africans "will not face this enemy alone."

President George W. Bush,
Gaborone, July 10, 2003

"Only two years ago the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria was still just an idea endorsed by President Bush and Secretary General Annan. Today it is a reality."

"Two years ago President Bush pledged the founding \$200 million for the Global Fund. Our pledge has risen to \$1.6 billion, out of a total of \$4.7 billion in pledges made to date worldwide. And the United States proudly remains the largest single contributor to the fund."

U.S. Health and Human Services
Secretary Tommy Thompson, United
Nations, September 22, 2003

"For our part, the United States will remain at the forefront of the worldwide effort to combat AIDS. As President Bush has said, 'In the face of preventable death and suffering, we have a moral duty to act', and we are acting. The United States remains the largest donor of bilateral HIV/AIDS assistance, providing almost half of all international HIV/AIDS funding in 2002."

U.S. Secretary of State Colin
Powell, United Nations, September 22,
2003

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EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



***Handing Over Ceremony of
Ambulances & Blood Safety
Equipment for 3 Zonal
Blood Transfusion Centers
to the
Ministry of Health***

October 28, 2003

DEVELOPMENT



In response to the bombings in Dar es Salaam and Nairobi, the U.S. Congress authorized a special humanitarian assistance programme of \$9,231,000 to alleviate the suffering of the bomb victims and strengthen the capacity of organizations to respond to future disasters.

In Tanzania, sixty-four individuals and one small business received approximately \$184,000 in humanitarian support, including payment of funeral expenses, hospital bills and school fees, purchase of medicines, school uniforms, books and clothing, and reimbursement for personal property such as cooking pots, bicycles, electrical appliances, and automobiles that were destroyed or damaged in the bombing.

In addition, twelve private homeowners and 13 parastatals have received \$208,000 for the cost of repairs to their damaged properties, according to figures put together by the American Embassy.

USAID also financed the construction of a new office building and three new houses to replace properties that were destroyed by the bombing. In addition, the Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore, Maryland, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of Atlanta, Georgia, were contracted to strengthen the capacities of the Disaster Management Department in the Prime Minister's Office, the Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit of the Ministry of Health, and the Tanzania Red Cross Society.

Program

National Anthems	U.S. Embassy Choir
Welcome and Introduction.....	J. Michael Korff U.S. Embassy Counsellor for Public Affairs
The U.S. contribution to blood safety in Tanzania.....	Cheryl L. Scott, M.D. Director, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
The U.S. commitment to Tanzania's capacity to respond to disasters...	Ray Kirkland Director, U.S. Agency for International Development
The U.S. and Tanzania's health: Why we care.....	Ambassador Robert V. Royall
Handing over of signed contracts for 'construction and blood safety equipment for 3 zonal Blood Transfusion Centers'	Dr. Scott
Handing over of ambulance ignition keys.....	Dr. Kirkland
Remarks.....	Mariam Mwaffisi Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health
Conclusion & Test Drive of Ambulances.....	



Blood Safety

In Tanzania, as in most subSaharan African countries, blood safety remains a public health challenge. HIV/AIDS seroprevalence in 2002 among Tanzanian men and women blood donors was estimated at 10.4 and 13.7 %, respectively. Children and pregnant women are most severely affected, receiving, respectively, 50% and 35% of all blood transfusions. Most hospitals rely on patients' families to donate blood when it is needed; less than 15% of the nation's blood supply is collected from volunteer donors. This system results in severe blood shortages and delays in vitally needed transfusions. HIV prevalence among these family-recruited donors is high.

To address this critical situation, the Ministry of Health held a workshop in April 2001 to draft a plan to restructure the national laboratory services and form a National Blood Transfusion Service (NBTS), in line with resolutions of the World Health Assembly and World Health Organization.

CDC-Tanzania began collaborating in 2002 with the Tanzania Ministry of Health to support its national blood safety plan. To prepare for implementation, CDC developed a five-year cooperative agreement that will provide the Ministry of Health with 500,000 per year to assist in development of a multi-year plan to improve blood safety, including creation of four zonal transfusion centers and strengthening capacity for blood collection, testing, and appropriate use

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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